

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	387



wn Lexington

dress 57 Meriam Street

storic Name William Reed House

e: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

te c. 1914

Source Sarah Emily Brown Shoenhut

Style Italian Villa

Architect Willard Brown

Exterior wall fabric stucco

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

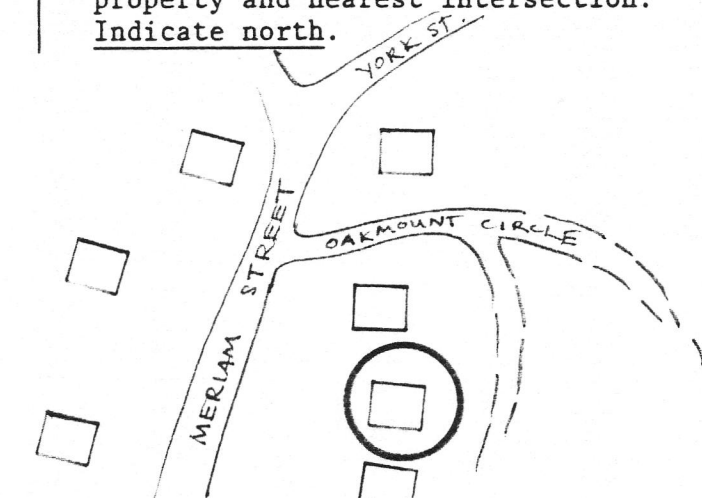
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 1.8 A. (76948 ft.<sup>2</sup>)

Setting On the western crest of Granny Hill, one of the highest sites in Lexington; panoramic view to west.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This substantial house is one of the most Italian of Willard Brown's designs. Brown had studied in Italy and, according to his daughter, was particularly fond of the country's architecture. Features include those Brown was apt to use in many of his buildings: low hovering roof with broad overhang and "eyebrow" portion, and fieldstone areas; but it also incorporates some specific Italian references such as the red tile roof, the elaborate wrought iron hinges on several exterior doors, and the overall stucco finish.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The house was built by William Wadsworth Reed, a real estate dealer. An enthusiastic tennis player, he constructed one of the earliest private tennis courts in Lexington on the lot.

*William + Katie Reed still here in 1942.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

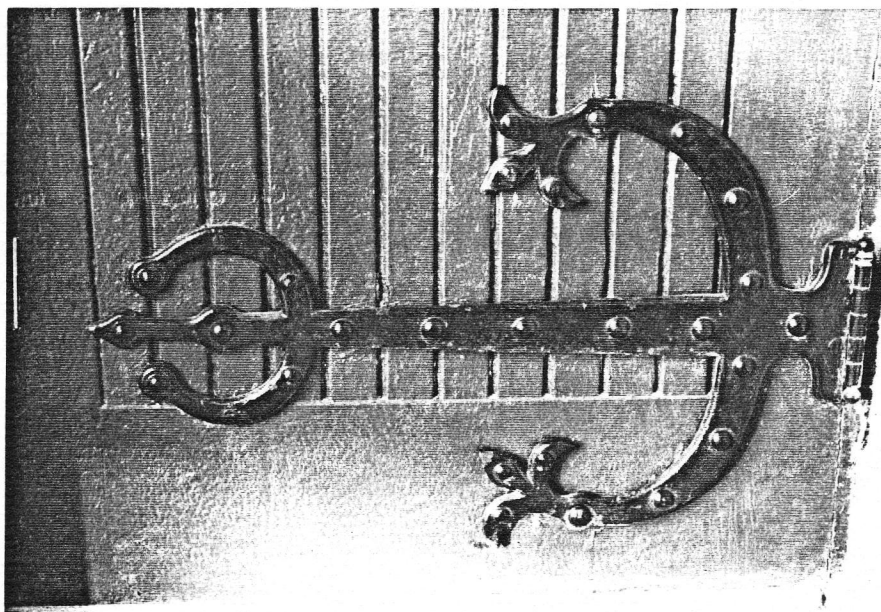
Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 569. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913.

Plans by Willard Brown in possession of the current owner.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

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Ir " " item - inventory form which is " " continued below.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom